



Job Shadowing FACT SHEET

February 1, 2009

Job Shadow 2009

What is Job Shadow 2009?

The Job Shadow Initiative, now in its 12th year, kicks off on February 2, 2009. This will launch a yearlong initiative that gives students across America, and throughout the world, the chance to “shadow” a workplace mentor as he or she goes through a day on the job. This effort provides young people with an up-close look at how skills learned in school are put to use in the workplace. More than one million students and 100,000 businesses will participate in Job Shadow 2009.

How Did the Job Shadow Initiative Get Started?

In 1996, the first local Job Shadow Day was conducted in Boston. In 1997, the National Job Shadow Coalition was formed to encourage participation in a shadowing initiative across the United States. The goal was to help young people explore firsthand the skills and education needed to succeed in today's and future job markets, and to encourage the development of relationships between students and caring adults.

When is Job Shadow 2009?

February 2 is the kickoff to Job Shadow 2009, a yearlong initiative. The initiative was originally called Groundhog Job Shadow Day because it was a one-day effort that occurred on February 2, Groundhog Day. However, over the past decade it has grown into a year-round effort. Now, the National Job Shadow Coalition refers to it as Job Shadow 2009 to take into consideration all of the Job Shadowing activities taking place throughout the year.

Does Job Shadowing make a difference?

A survey released by Junior Achievement (JA) indicates that American middle and high school students have unrealistic views of their future careers. Job Shadowing is increasingly important for students because it acquaints them with the world of work through on-the-job experiences and a carefully crafted school curriculum that ties academics to the workplace throughout the year.

Who sponsors the Job Shadow Initiative?

Job Shadow 2009 is a joint initiative of a coalition that includes America's Promise, Junior Achievement, the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor. Job Shadow 2009 is being supported by the Best Buy Foundation, AT&T, the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and CISCO Systems.

Where will Job Shadowing 2009 take place?

At more than 100,000 participating businesses and organizations (any place where there are working people) across the country. Participating businesses coordinate and support employees to serve as workplace mentors for Job Shadow 2009. In previous years, the following Job Shadowing activities took place:

- Students shadowed on-air hosts at NBC's Today show and CBS' *The Early Show*
- Marriott properties nationwide hosted more than 4,000 students
- Students shadowed at Best Buy and Home Depot locations nationwide
- Students shadowed at all 2,750 Wal-Mart and 490 Sam's Club stores in the nation
- Nineteen-year-old Phil Dade CEO of APConnection.com was the youngest adult to be shadowed
- Rite Aid Pharmacies, one of the nation's leading drugstore chains, hosted *Groundhog Job Shadow Day* events for approximately 300 students at more than 100 locations nationwide

Where can you learn more about job shadowing and order information?

Visit www.jobshadow.org, e-mail info@jobshadow.org.

Junior Achievement

JA Worldwide is the world's largest organization dedicated to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. Through a dedicated volunteer network, JA Worldwide provides in-school and after-school programs for students in grades K-12. JA Worldwide offers educational programs that focus on three key content areas: entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy. Today, 140 individual area operations reach approximately 4 million students in the United States, with an additional 4 million students served by operations in 119 other countries worldwide. For more information, visit www.ja.org.

Junior Achievement of Mississippi Valley, Inc. is a licensee of JA Worldwide. Founded in 1943, JAMVI has become the 6th largest JA Worldwide office in the United States. The local operation encompasses 25 counties in Missouri and 17 counties in southwestern Illinois. A total of 123,000 students in over 700 schools in grades K-12 are projected to participate in 2008-2009. Programs are offered in parochial, private and public schools, and education centers in and around St. Louis with satellite operations in outlying areas. A professional staff of 37 employees and a dedicated volunteer board of 60 members, representing prominent St. Louis businesses, govern Junior Achievement of Mississippi Valley, Inc. JAMVI's office is located within The Dennis and Judy Jones Free Enterprise Center. The Center is home to JA's 5th through 12th grade capstone programs, the only facility of its kind in St. Louis and the world. For more information, visit www.jastl.org or contact Meredith Knopp at 636-728-0707, ext. 201.

Junior Achievement of Middle America, Inc. is a licensee of JA Worldwide. Since 1955, through hands-on programs delivered by business volunteers, JAMA has educated K-12 students about entrepreneurship, work readiness, financial literacy, the value of education and the importance of staying in school. Nearly 1,000 volunteers from the business community take the time to come to the school to mentor and help young people understand how America works, inspiring them to recognize their talents and abilities, make positive choices and create opportunities for success. Additionally, 2,700 students

had the opportunity to participate in Job Shadows with JAMA's corporate partners. JAMA's vision is a brighter future for our children, our community and its businesses. Located in Kansas City, MO with district offices in St. Joseph, MO and Springfield, MO, JAMA reached 22,000 students in 200 schools. Junior Achievement of Middle America encompasses 27 counties in Missouri and five counties in eastern Kansas. For more information about JA and to learn how you can participate, visit www.jamidamerica.org or contact Erma King, senior education manager at eking@jamidamerica.org or 816-561-3558 ext. 106.

Junior Achievement – Ozarks District is a district office of Junior Achievement of Middle America, Inc. (JAMA). JA-Ozarks has been providing JA programs to students since 1976 and serves 13 counties in Southwest Missouri. JA-Ozarks served 1,578 students in 16 schools during the 2007-08 school year and is on target to serve approximately 1,600 to 1,800 students during 2008-09. JA-Ozarks provides programs in daytime classrooms in public and private schools and in after-school programs in. JA-Ozarks has one staff person and a dedicated local board of directors representing many businesses throughout its area serving the JA-Ozarks district office and program. Local businesses contribute funding and classroom consultants (volunteers) to provide JA programs to students in its service area. More information on JA-Ozarks programs can be found at <http://springfield.ja.org>, which is the local website for JA programs in Southwest Missouri.

Sampling of Job Shadow Programs in Missouri

JA Job Shadow

- *Contact: See above contacts and www.ja.org/programs/programs_job_shadow.shtml*

FCCLA: The Legislative Shadowing Project

The Legislative Shadowing Project, now in its ninth year, is conducted by the Missouri Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, the student organization for family and consumer sciences education. The project pairs juniors and seniors with state representatives, senators and other officials to observe their meetings, hearings and public duties. The 2009 event will take place on Feb. 24 and 25 in Jefferson City.

- *Contact: Christine Hollingsworth, FCCLA state advisor, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 573-751-7964, e-mail christine.hollingsworth@dese.mo.gov*

Rockwood School District, Eureka, Mo.

The Rockwood School district partners with four local Chambers of Commerce, Eureka, Fenton, West County and Chesterfield, to offer job shadowing to the district's juniors. "We have business partners within each of those chambers and throughout the St. Louis community," Litzau said. "We have partnerships with Boeing, Microsoft, Monsanto, Barnes Jewish Hospital, Washington University and St. Louis University. Students shadow in both large and small companies." Close to 350 juniors participate each year, and the district has a database of over 250 businesses that have participated. Students fill out an application form at the beginning of their junior year and are set up with a one-day career shadowing experience anytime from October through early May.

- *Contact: Kim Litzau, Partners in Education, supervisor, 636-938-2315*

Springfield Public Schools

For the third consecutive year, the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement – Ozarks District and the Southwest Area Human Resources Association

(SAHRA) are partnering to provide a job shadow program to high school students in Springfield Public Schools. The program served 13 students the first year and 42 students the second year. “During this third year we are on target to substantially increase again the number of students in the job shadow program,” said Colleen Neill, district manager of Junior Achievement – Ozarks District. “We will kick-off the job shadow program again this year on Groundhog Job Shadow Day and continue the program until mid-May.”

The Springfield Area Chamber, JA-Ozarks and SAHRA solicit businesses through each of their organization’s newsletters. Students fill out a form with their interests and are then matched with businesses that have expressed interest in participating. “If we have a student indicate a profession that we don’t have a host business for we will personally solicit a business to do that,” Westerman said. “We make every effort to place each student in a business that can offer them the shadowing experience they have requested.”

- *Contact: Kristen Westerman, manger of workforce and business development, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, 417-862-5567*

Effective Employer Linkages for Career Preparation

From grades K-16, employer partnerships and linkages to the real world play an important role in today’s educational process. Roles that employers might play in assisting schools with the grade-appropriate educational development of both students and staff include:

career day speakers, career fairs, classroom events and support, job shadow experiences, mentors, work-based experiences, cooperative education, involvement with career and technical student organizations, apprenticeship, internships, career information, and much more.

- *Contact: Dr. Bragg Stanley, director of guidance and placement services, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 573-751-7966, bragg.stanley@dese.mo.gov*